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INTELLIGENCE AND REMARKS.



Libraries.—We make the following extract from Mr. Walsh's Register, both on account of the information it gives respecting the libraries in the United States, and also for the purpose of adding something more full, than he has stated, on the libraries in this vicinity.

‘Several of the cities of the United States of America, although they cannot boast of collections of books equal in extent or value to those enumerated above, possess, however, very respectable public libraries. The University of Cambridge, near Boston, has a rich fund of the ancient classicks and biblical works. The Athenæum of Boston is well supplied with general modern literature, particularly history. The library of the Historical Society of New York contains much curious matter appropriate to the character of the society. But the most extensive of all our repositories of this kind is the Philadelphia Library, of which the number of volumes is not less than twenty thousand. It is a miscellany of all branches of knowledge, and abounds in curious tracts on the early history and revolutionary struggle of North America. Great care has been taken to procure for it the principal works in general literature that have been published of late years in England, and these comprise many very costly editions. The part of it which is called the Loganian library, a donation from the celebrated William Logan, of Pennsylvania, is chiefly composed of the most rare and valuable of the ancient classicks, besides much of the European literature of the seventeenth century. There is wherewithal to form an accomplished scholar, and to satisfy the most recendite enquiry.’

The following list of libraries will show that the advantages for the student and the man of science, presented by our libraries, are by no means inconsiderable, and we may hope that the period is not distant, when our collections and establishments of this sort will vie with those of Europe.

1. The library of the University contains about 18,000 volumes. In some branches it is very perfect. It possesses some works, which cannot now be purchased at any price. Some of the most costly and rare editions, and scarce works, were presented by Mr. Hollis. He spent much time and spared no expense in collecting works of great interest and value, and at a period when the number of competitors were not so numerous as they now are. There are some treasures in this way, that can hardly be surpassed. A few of these books were described in the Monthly Anthology and General Repository.

The rapid increase of this library is an object highly deserving

publick attention ; and can only be effected by the munificence of individuals. *Its principal benefactor has hitherto been an Englishman, (Hollis.)* In consequence of a request lately made, some publishers have commenced sending their different publications to this library ; and if this practice should be extended and continued, it will thus be regularly increased with a large number of valuable works, beside others, which, though of less intrinsic worth, are very proper to be preserved in such a depository. A library exclusively medical has been commenced by Ward Nicholas Boylston, Esq. and contains at present about a thousand volumes presented by him.

Beside the library of the University, there are libraries belonging to different societies of the students, which contain in all probably between 2000 and 3000 volumes.

2. The library of the Boston Athenæum contains 11,600 volumes. This collection is rich in many splendid works of natural history. There are many elegant editions of the ancient classics, and the department of translations, French and English, is very ample. The collection in history is respectable ; in biography, very complete. In American history it is unrivalled. Under this head may be noticed upwards of 8000 pamphlets, collected with indefatigable perseverance during a number of years, by Mr. Shaw. The private library of the Hon. J. Q. Adams is temporarily deposited there. It contains 5000 volumes, and is very rich in the departments of jurisprudence, and the classics. The library of the American Academy is also deposited there, so that there are now in the same building 18,000 volumes.

3. The library of the American Academy contains 1400 volumes, principally works of science, transactions of foreign societies, &c.

4. The library of the Historical Society, contains about 2000 volumes, and a vast collection of pamphlets, principally relating to American history. It has also a valuable collection of manuscripts. Some of these, which were found in the library of the Old South church, are extremely curious. There are also thirty volumes of MSS. belonging to the late Governour Trumbull, containing his whole correspondence, during the revolutionary war, &c.

5. The Medical library at the Medical College contains between 2000 and 3000 volumes, comprising all the most important and costly works in this branch.

6. The Theological library,—containing about 2000 volumes, in the Church at Chauncey place.

7. The Social Law library, which has about 1000 volumes, and is deposited for the use of the bar in the Court house.

8. The Boston library in Franklin place. This collection con-

tains between 5000 and 6000 volumes, principally in modern history, belles lettres, voyages and travels, novels, &c. This collection is the property of a company who are incorporated. The holders of shares have a right to take out the books, and the library is open twice a week for that purpose. Between five and six hundred volumes of the best French works have lately been added. This library is a very excellent collection of books, and it is not common to find so large a proportion of any library made up of the best standard works.

9. Private circulating libraries, the largest of which contains 7000 volumes.

From this rather imperfect statement it will be seen, that lovers of literature and science can have access to publick libraries, in Boston and at the University, which contain many rare and valuable books in different departments of learning, and that the collection thus open to the publick, amounts in the whole to not less than *sixty thousand* volumes.

University Reading Room.—A reading room has lately been established in the University at Cambridge. The periodical publications, pamphlets, newspapers, &c. received, will be collected at the end of each year, bound and deposited in the Library. It will be possible to procure by purchase but a small proportion of those publications which it will be desirable to obtain. It is hoped and believed therefore, that some editors of newspapers and periodical works, as well as other gentlemen engaged in publishing, may be willing to contribute gratuitously to the support of such an institution, by sending newspapers, pamphlets, &c. Any gentleman disposed to make contributions of this sort, will please to direct to Andrews Norton, Librarian of Harvard University, Cambridge, either through the mail, or if the article sent be too bulky for that conveyance, to the care of Cummings & Hilliard, booksellers, Boston. It will be desirable to obtain complete sets of each publication, at least for the current year.

Magellanick Premium.—Mr. John Hyacinth de Magellan, of London, sometime ago offered, as a donation to the American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia for promoting useful knowledge, the sum of two hundred guineas, to be by them vested in a secure and permanent fund, the interest of which was to be annually disposed of in Premiums. These were to be adjudged by the Society to the author of the best discovery, or most useful invention, relating to Navigation, Astronomy, or Natural Philosophy ;—(mere Natural History only excepted.) The following is the substance of the conditions prescribed by the donor, and agreed to by the Society.

Every candidate is to send his performance accompanied with a sealed letter, containing his name and place of residence, and also some device answering to another attached to the performance. Any performance may be written either in the English, French, or Latin language; but none shall be entitled to a premium, which has ever been published, or has received elsewhere a reward as a prize article. All communications are to be publicly read or exhibited to the society at least one month previous to the time of adjudication, which takes place annually at one of the stated meetings of the society in December. The premiums are awarded by a majority of the votes of the members present; and after a favourable decision on any performance, and not till then, the letter attached to it is opened, and the name of the author announced as the person entitled to the said premium.

A full account of the successful article will be published by the society in the next succeeding volume of their transactions, or in a separate publication. The unsuccessful performances will remain under consideration for five years, unless withdrawn by their authors, during which time they will be considered as having comparative claims with such others as may be sent in. The society will annually publish an abstract of the titles and subject matter of the communications under consideration. In case there should be a failure in any year of any communication worthy of the proposed premium, there will then be two premiums to be awarded the next year. The premium shall consist of an oval plate of solid standard gold of the value of *ten guineas*; on one side of which shall be neatly engraved a short Latin motto suited to the occasion, together with the words, "The Premium of John Hyacinth de Magellan, of London, established in the year 1786;" and on the other side, "Awarded by the A. P. S. for the discovery of—A. D."

Premiums will also be awarded, from the surplus funds of the donation, to such articles as are meritorious, but still not worthy of the highest premium. These will consist of a gold medal in value not less than *twenty dollars*, nor more than *forty five dollars*; or it will be at the option of the successful candidate to have such a medal, or its value in money, accompanied with a diploma on parchment, to which will be affixed the seal of the society.

Articles, or communications on the subject, may be sent to John Vaughan, Esq. Philadelphia.



Bowdoin Prize Dissertations.—The Corporation of Harvard University have this year assigned four premiums from the Bowdoin funds for prize dissertations.

To George Otis, A. B. a first premium for a dissertation on 'The use and necessity of Revelation.'

To George Bancroft, Senior Sophister, a second premium, for a dissertation on the same subject.

To John Everett, Junior Sophister, a first premium for a dissertation on 'The peculiar genius of Shakspeare.'

To John H. Wilkins, Junior Sophister, a second premium for a dissertation on the same subject.

Medical Botany.—Messrs. Cummings & Hilliard are about publishing American Medical Botany, a collection of the native medicinal plants of the United States, with coloured engravings, by Dr. Bigelow, Rumford Professor, &c. in Harvard University, containing the botanical character and history of each plant, its places of growth and period of flowering, its preparations and uses in medicine, diet and the arts. We congratulate the publick that this work is in such hands; and are confident that Dr. Bigelow could not better fulfil the design of the benevolent founder of his professorship to make the natural sciences subservient to the comfort of individuals, than by this attempt to render the science of botany more useful in the manufactory, the hospital and the kitchen. The value of any discoveries made by the author cannot be estimated till they are before the publick; but much advantage may be anticipated from his determination to discriminate between the properties of plants, whose utility is established by sufficient evidence and those whose reputation rests on vague report. The first number of this work will probably be published within a month. The engravings to be contained in it, made and coloured in this town, are already completed, and will not disappoint the expectations excited by the prospectus.

Dr. Barton of Philadelphia also proposes to publish Vegetable Materia Medica of the United States, or Medical Botany, containing a Botanical, General, and Medical History of Medicinal Plants, indigenous to the United States. His professed object is to present the publick with faithful representations of the many important medicinal plants of our own country, and to mention, particularly, their economical uses.

Flora Novanglica.—We understand that a Flora of the New England States containing a systematick and enlarged description of the vegetable productions of this section of our country, has been for some time in preparation, and is now in a state of forwardness. The work will be the joint production of Dr. Bigelow and Francis Boott, esq. of this town. The doubtful species, of which so many exist from the hitherto imperfect examination of this branch of our natural history, will be referred to some of the highest authorities in Europe, and none inserted in the work but

such as are proved to possess distinct characters. Specimens of the plants will be compared with the original herbarium of Linnaeus, in the possession of Sir J. E. Smith, with that of the elder Michaux at Paris, and with those collections made by naturalists, who have travelled through the United States ; most of which are to be found in the celebrated museums in England.

Deaf and Dumb.—The following intelligence was obtained from a gentleman who has long sustained a high character in the literary world, and who translated it from an authentick work, published in Holland, 1777. We learn from it, that much successful attention had been given to the instruction of the deaf and dumb before the efforts of L'Abbés Epee and Sicard.

The Reverend S. Arnoldi, minister at Grosslenden, Hessen-Darmstad, was not contented to confine his usefulness entirely to his congregation, but devoted a part of his time to the benevolent purpose of instructing the deaf and dumb, in which he was very successful. He collected a small number of persons around him, who were in this unhappy condition, and succeeded not only in conveying to them knowledge, but enabling them to express their own ideas. They could converse with him in their manner—copy what he read—and even compose. Their compositions were imperfect, usually wanting some of the particles, and the pronouns *I, thou, he, &c.* but they generally expressed their ideas with correctness. The following letter was written by a deaf and dumb lady after she had been a short time under the instruction of this clergyman. It was designed to thank a noble lady for a remedy, which she had recommended to her, but which she had tried without success.

‘DEAR COUNTESS,

‘I thank you for the favour,—that you send me a remedy. You do not know me, and yet you are kind to me. How noble is your heart. How good art thou. I kiss your hand. Thou art dear to me. I will pray God for your health. Love me—I remember you, and wish to see you. Live happy.’

The persons, who have been particularly successful in giving instructions to the deaf and dumb, have been Arnoldi in Hessen, Guiot at Groninguen, in the United Provinces, Abbé Epee and Abbé Sicard at Paris.

Trumbull's History of Connecticut.—The Rev. Dr. TRUMBULL has in readiness for the press a second volume of the History of Connecticut, from the year 1713 to 1764. The first volume, which met with a very favourable reception, being already out of print, will, if sufficiently encouraged, be now reprinted,

with some corrections, and the addition of the great Patent of New England, lately obtained from the office in London, and never before in America. Few histories, if any, have been more carefully or faithfully compiled from original state papers and authentick documents; and, as this volume will bring down the history of that state until near the time of the revolution, when it becomes very much involved in the general history of the United States, it will have a unity and completeness, as well as accuracy and exactness, which will render it a very valuable addition to our libraries, and acquisition to the community. This volume (as does the first) will contain about 600 pages; be printed on a good type and paper; be neatly bound and lettered; and the price will be to subscribers three dollars, to non-subscribers, three dollars and a third. It is hoped the work will receive that encouragement, to which it seems preeminently entitled.

Worcester's Gazetteer.—The first volume of Mr. Worcester's Gazetteer, which is to consist of two volumes, has recently been published. He adopts Crutwell's Gazetteer as the basis of his, introducing however many additions, and proposing to make many corrections, particularly in American topography. Though the number of articles is increased, yet the work is brought within the compass of two octavo volumes, by the omission of many details, with which gazetteers are generally incumbered, but which belong rather to geographies, histories, and travels; and is thus rendered, what we think a work of this kind ought to be, a topographical dictionary. We have not had the opportunity of examining it sufficiently to give an opinion of its general accuracy. The great number of articles, the size of the work, and the frequent mention of bearings and distances make it a very convenient and useful index to maps and charts. It is formed upon a very good plan, and neatly printed, and if the author has been generally as industrious and judicious in the choice and examination of authorities, as the character we have received of him induces us to suppose, his work will be greatly useful to the publick. We recommend to him, if it be not too late, to consult the table of latitudes and longitudes in Bowditch's Practical Navigator, an authority of too great weight to be neglected wherever it can be used. We hope to give a more particular notice of this work hereafter.

The second volume of Reports in the Circuit Court of the United States for the first circuit will appear in a few weeks, from the press of Wells & Lilly. This volume, we understand, comprises the cases decided in the four terms of the years 1814 and 1815. Among them are some of the most interesting prize causes,

which arose out of the late war, as well as several cases in common law and chancery, and the instance side of the admiralty, involving legal principles of great importance. The opinion of Hon. Judge Story, holding that the admiralty has jurisdiction in cases arising in policies of insurance, will be contained in this volume.

The second volume of Wheaton's Reports in the Supreme Court of the United States will be published very shortly. We are happy to learn, that in it Mr. W. has pursued his able exposition of the rules of practice in prize causes.

Lunatics.—Dr. George Parkman has published a pamphlet on insanity, and the management of the insane, dedicated to the Trustees of the Massachusetts General Hospital. He defines insanity to be ‘a want of control of our feelings and propensities.’ In the first part of the work are considered the different kinds and degrees of insanity, and the circumstances conducive to it; the second contains a sketch of a plan for a hospital, remarks on the utility of asylums for the insane, the accommodations suited to different patients, diet, attendance, moral treatment, &c. The work shows that the author has given much attention to the subject, and contains many important hints very opportunely published, but thrown together in a manner somewhat irregular and broken, and a little encumbered with quotations and references.

The Bower of Spring.—This is a little volume of very genteel poetry, in which all the rhymes are exact, and the measure is observed with great accuracy. The ladies ought certainly to read and admire it, since the author in his *Paradise of Coquettes*, and now again in this volume, ‘lays claim to the proud title of the poet of woman.’

Melincourt.—This little work has not a high character as a novel, but derives interest from the introduction of Scott, Southey, Gifford, Coleridge, and Wordsworth among its characters; under the names of Derrydown, Feathernest, Vamp, Paperstamp and Mystic. The dialogues are mostly discussions of political economy, parliamentary reform, political abuses, slave trade, and the venality and grovelling sentiments of high life.

Tooke's Pantheon.—Coale & Maxwell, Baltimore, have published an edition of Tooke's Pantheon, ‘revised for a classical course of education, and adapted for the use of students of every age, and of either sex.’

This book has been through thirty three editions in London, and
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is among the first works on this subject, if not itself the first, in our language. It is adapted more especially to learners, and is written with a playful simplicity of style and perspicuity of narrative. Its arrangement is systematical and lucid, well calculated to facilitate acquisition, and to be easily retained by the memory. It is not encumbered with the perplexing particularities, and uncertain genealogies, which are too often crowded into treatises on heathen mythology. A selection is made of such only of the more important characters, as serve to illustrate the popular classical authors. The only objection, we believe, which has ever been urged against this work, as a book of general utility for learners of both sexes, is, that the author has sometimes fallen upon indelicate allusions and modes of expression, in speaking of some of the frailties of the heathen deities. It is the peculiar merit of the present edition to have obviated this objection, by 'altering or expunging the language or phrases considered improper, while much care has been taken that no fact or incident, worthy of any note, related by the author, is omitted.'

This edition reflects high credit on the editor and publishers. It is printed with accuracy, on excellent paper, with a fair type, and ornamented with thirty outlined plates, well executed by the celebrated artist, FAIRMAN. We think it deserves a large share of public patronage, and feel assured that no book of the kind can be recommended with so much confidence for the use of our schools and seminaries of learning. An extensive knowledge of heathen mythology is absolutely essential to any tolerable understanding of the classicks, and perhaps it will be no unjust reflection on our present systems of education, to say, that much too little attention has been generally paid to this important branch of a liberal and polite education. We are aware, that this neglect has arisen in a great measure from a want of books proper for the purpose, but this defect is happily supplied in the present improved edition of Tooke, and we hope our instructors and superintendants of literary establishments will not be slow in bringing it into general use.

Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews.—It is frequently remarked by the readers of these reviews, that the American editions are printed very incorrectly.

Armata.—A Fragment, reputed to be from the pen of Lord Erskine, has been republished by James Eastburn & Co. New-York, from the 2d London edition. A second part of the same work is just published in London.

Mr. John G. Hales is preparing for publication, a Map of Boston and the vicinity. It is to be drawn on a scale of one mile to an inch, and is to extend so far north as to include, in that quarter, Salem, part of Beverly, Danvers, part of Reading, Wilmington, Bedford and Concord. On the west, it will include Lincoln, Weston, part of East-Sudbury and Natick, Dover, and part of Medfield. On the south, it will include Dedham, Milton, Quincy, Braintree, Weymouth, part of Canton and Randolph, Hingham, Cohasset, and part of Scituate. It will embrace the whole Harbour and Bay, from Manchester on the north, to Scituate Neck on the south, with the coast, islands and shoals, from an original and minute survey. All the towns within these limits will of course be exhibited; and all the streams, boundaries, roads, streets, publick buildings, manufacturing establishments, dwelling houses (except in towns) and other objects worthy of notice will be laid down. The hills will be accurately exhibited, with the measure of their elevation above the level of the sea. The different kinds of soil, woodlands, meadows and marshes, will also be distinguished. Mr. Hales has been engaged in making the necessary surveys nearly three years, and has advanced so far in the work as to expect to get it ready for publication in the course of the ensuing winter. He has contracted with one of the best artists in Philadelphia to engrave the work, and we have reason to expect that every part of it will be executed with uncommon accuracy and fidelity.



Abstract of meteorological observations for June and July, taken at Cambridge.

		Barometer.			Thermometer.		
		7 A. M.	2 P. M.	9 P. M.	7 A. M.	2 P. M.	9 P. M.
June	G.	30.41	30.39	30.39	68	83	68
	M.	29.933	29.925	29.903	56.9	69.4	59.4
	L.	29.52	29.42	29.36	41	53	46
July	G.	30.35	30.35	30.32	79	94	74
	M.	29.947	29.969	29.944	65.6	70.2	64.9
	L.	29.66	29.60	29.71	56	66	54

Whole quantity of rain in June, five and a half inches—in July one and a third.